

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) An appliance for water-jet surgery, comprising:

a plurality of supply cylinders, each supply cylinder including a piston, a working fluid enclosed therein, and an outlet, wherein the and pistons arrangements each defining an outlet and adapted to store a working fluid is enclosed within each supply cylinder in a leak proof manner until it is caused to that can be expelled, by means of the piston, through said the outlet;

a pressure conduit in fluid communication with said the outlet[[s]] of each of the plurality of supply cylinders and into which said the working fluid is expelled;

at least one actuation device to actuate the pistons; and

a change-over device to shift the actuation from [[the]] a first piston of one corresponding to a first of the plurality of supply cylinders to [[the]] a next piston of another corresponding to a next of the plurality of supply cylinders such that in order that, in use, the working fluid can be ejected into the pressure conduit from consecutively emptying supply cylinders.

2. (Currently amended) [[A]]The appliance according to claim 1, wherein said the change-over device is adapted operates such that consecutive actuation periods of each of the pistons overlap one another in order that expulsion of the fluid into said the pressure conduit is uninterrupted.

3. (Currently amended) [[A]]The appliance according to claim 1, wherein a sealing device is provided to provide a leak proof connection to each fluid outlet.

4. (Currently amended) [[A]]The appliance according to claim 1, comprising wherein a plurality of actuation devices is provided.

5. (Currently amended) ~~[[A]]~~The appliance according to claim 1, wherein each ~~of~~ ~~said~~ piston~~[[s]]~~ comprises a back-flow barrier such that, after ~~said~~ the piston has reached a position in which ~~it has expelled said~~ the working fluid has been expelled from its associated supply cylinder, ~~said~~ the piston cannot be pushed back into a previous position.

6. (Currently amended) ~~[[A]]~~The appliance according to claim 1, wherein an irreversibly openable transport gasket is provided at ~~said~~ the outlet of each supply cylinder.

7. (Currently amended) ~~[[A]]~~The appliance according to claim 1, further comprising wherein a change-over magazine ~~is provided to that receives the plurality a group of~~ supply cylinders and piston arrangements.

8. (Currently amended) ~~[[A]]~~The appliance according to claim 7, wherein ~~said~~ the change-over magazine defines chambers, each of which ~~that~~ closely surrounds ~~said~~ the respective one of the plurality of supply cylinders.

9. (Currently amended) ~~[[A]]~~The appliance according to claim 7, wherein the change-over magazine further comprises collection devices ~~are provided in the change-over~~ magazine to conduct working fluid from ~~said~~ the supply cylinders to ~~said~~ the pressure conduit.

10. (Currently amended) ~~[[A]]~~The appliance according to claim 1, further comprising wherein ventilation devices ~~are provided~~ for the removal of air from conduit sections located between the outlets of the supply cylinders and the pressure conduit.

11. (Currently amended) ~~[[A]]~~The appliance according to claim 10, wherein ventilation devices are disposed in a change-over magazine.

12. (Currently amended) ~~[[A]]~~The appliance according to claim 7, wherein ~~said~~ the change-over magazine is irreversibly connected to the pressure conduit to form a single-use unit.

13. (New) The appliance according to claim 7, wherein the plurality of supply cylinders are arranged in the change-over magazine around a central axis of the change-over magazine.

14. (New) The appliance according to claim 13, wherein the plurality of supply cylinders are arranged parallel to the central axis of the change-over magazine

15. (New) The appliance according to claim 13, wherein the change-over magazine rotates around the central axis.

16. (New) The appliance according to claim 7, wherein each of the plurality of supply cylinders is individually replaceable.

17. (New) The appliance according to claim 1, further comprising a change-over magazine, wherein the plurality of supply cylinders is integrally formed in the change-over magazine.

18. (New) A supply device for use in an appliance for water-jet surgery, comprising:

a device outlet;

a plurality of supply chambers enclosing a working fluid, each supply chamber defined by a piston, at least one chamber outlet and at least one supply chamber wall; and

a conduit that provides fluid communication between the device outlet and the at least one chamber outlet of each of the plurality of supply chambers, wherein

each of the plurality of supply chambers comprises a seal that hermetically encloses the working fluid in the supply chamber until a high pressure is applied to the working fluid via the piston.

19. (New) The supply device of claim 18, wherein each of the plurality of supply chambers comprises a locking mechanism that prevents a return movement of the piston once the

piston has reached a position in which the supply chamber is substantially emptied of working fluid, thus preventing a return of working fluid into the supply chamber.

20. (New) A supply cartridge for use in a supply device for water-jet surgery, comprising:

a sterile working fluid;

a supply chamber for storing the working fluid, the supply chamber being defined by a movable piston, at least one chamber outlet and at least one supply chamber wall; and

a seal that hermetically encloses the sterile working fluid in the supply chamber until a high pressure is applied to the sterile working fluid via the movable piston.

21. (New) The supply cartridge of claim 20, wherein the supply chamber comprises a locking mechanism that prevents a return movement of the movable piston once the movable piston has reached a position in which the supply chamber is substantially emptied of the sterile working fluid, thus preventing a return of fluid into the supply chamber.

22. (New) A supply device for water-jet surgery, comprising:

a device outlet;

a plurality of receptacles, each of the receptacles configured and adapted to receive a supply cartridge that encloses a working fluid in a supply chamber defined by a piston, at least one chamber outlet and at least one supply chamber wall; and

a conduit that provides fluid communication between the device outlet and the at least one chamber outlet of each of the supply cartridges.

23. (New) An appliance for water-jet surgery, comprising:

an opening configured and adapted to interchangeably receive a supply device having a plurality of supply chambers or a plurality of supply cartridges, each of the supply chambers / cartridges having a piston; and

a plurality of actuation devices, each of the plurality of actuation devices actuating the piston of a respective one of the plurality of supply chambers / cartridges in a single direction.

24. (New) The appliance of claim 23, comprising:

a control device; and

a plurality of sensors, each of the plurality of sensors being associated with a respective one of the plurality of actuation devices, each of the plurality of sensors providing a signal to the control device indicative of when the respective one of the plurality of actuation devices has reached a final position.